

Health Update:

Influenza Vaccine Plan Update

October 14, 2004

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The Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) is now using 4 types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals, and to other interested persons:

Health Alerts convey information of the highest level of importance which warrants immediate action or attention from Missouri health providers, emergency responders, public health agencies, and/or the public.

Health Advisories provide important information for a specific incident or situation, including that impacting neighboring states; may not require immediate action.

Health Guidances contain comprehensive information pertaining to a particular disease or condition, and include recommendations, guidelines, etc. endorsed by DHSS.

Health Updates provide new or updated information on an incident or situation; can also provide information to update a previously sent Health Alert, Health Advisory, or Health Guidance; unlikely to require immediate action.

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**FROM: RICHARD C. DUNN
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SUBJECT: Influenza Vaccine Plan Update

Yesterday (October 12) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Aventis Pasteur (AvP) announced the first phase of a plan to allocate influenza vaccine in response to the recently announced loss of half of the nation's expected influenza vaccine supply for the 2004-2005 season. The information contained in this announcement was presented in a Health Update released later in the day. This Health Update provides additional information on the CDC/AvP vaccine allocation plan.

The following information summarizes the plan that CDC and AvP have developed that was discussed at the October 12 press briefing by the Director of CDC, Dr. Julie Gerberding:

- AvP will produce approximately 55.4 million doses of influenza vaccine for the 2004-05 season.
- Of that amount, 33 million doses have already been shipped, leaving 22.4 million undistributed.
- CDC and AvP are collaborating on plans to distribute the remaining 22.4 million doses.
- The plan will be executed in two phases.
- Phase 1 involves shipment of approximately 14 million doses over the coming weeks as follows:
 - All (100%) of the VFC orders for both Chiron and AvP influenza vaccine will be shipped using AvP vaccine.
 - All orders for AvP's preservative-free vaccine will be shipped to both public and private sector customers.
 - Orders placed with AvP from the Veterans Administration, the military, the Indian Health Service, and long-term care facilities will also be shipped in their entirety.

- In addition, phase 1 includes shipment of 50% of all public health sector orders placed with either AvP or Chiron for non-VFC, preservative-containing influenza vaccine. This includes orders placed against the federal contracts, state contracts, local contracts, and the Minnesota Multistate Contract.
- Per their usual procedures, AvP staff will contact customers prior to shipments with information about expected shipping dates, quantities and other logistical details.
- The remaining 8 million doses to be allocated in phase 2 include the 4.5 million doses in the CDC strategic reserve. In order to determine how to allocate these remaining doses, CDC staff will be querying grantees about public health sector needs and will also work with AvP and the Chiron distributors to identify customers serving significant numbers of high-risk patients.

Specific questions about influenza vaccine should be directed to the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Service's Section for Communicable Disease Prevention at 573/751-6475.

Additional information about influenza and this year's vaccine recommendations is available from CDC at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu>.